



# CHILDREN & FAMILIES

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER  
JANUARY 2024

## RACE BACK TO SUNDAY SCHOOL



Last year, it was "Bounce Back to Sunday School." The year before, we "Splashed Back to Sunday School."

Move over Formula One and NASCAR! With a nod to this year's summer Olympic Games, Redeemer's 2023-2024 second-semester launch for Sunday School will be a race - "Race Back to Sunday School" - on Sunday, January 21, following the 9 a.m. mass.

Weather permitting, the course will be in the Parish Courtyard. Rain plan: We'll move into Gillespie Hall.

Partner classes - Kindergarten and 5th, 1st and 6th, 2nd and 7th, 3rd and 8th, 4th and High School - have worked together to design and build cardboard race cars. On the morning of the 21st, these cars and their drivers - our Sunday School teachers - will race!

Who will "win the gold" and the checkered flag? Be there to cheer on your favorite!

## BAGELS AND BATHROBES

Redeemer's **Annual Parish Meeting & Celebration** is on Sunday, January 28, and that means it's time for our annual **Bagels & Bacon in Bathrobes** - and an added treat this year: **Candy Bingo!**

While parents are in the meeting, [which follows the 8:45 a.m. mass - yes, it's an earlier start time for the 9 a.m. mass], Kindergarten through 12th graders will join Youth Minister Jackie Overton and Director of Children's Christian Formation Jacki Boedecker in Gillespie Hall for the fun. It's also the Sunday kiddos can wear their PJs to church!

*BAGELS  
and BACON  
in  
BATHROBES  
with  
Candy  
Bingo!*

**Wear your PJs to church!**

**Sunday, January 28**

**During the Annual Parish Meeting**

**Grades K-12**





## REDEEMER CUP UPDATE

The 2023-2024 academic year has brought a little healthy competition to our Sunday School classes! Even-numbered grades have collectively competed against the odd-numbered grades to see who will win the coveted **Redeemer Cup**! Awarded three times throughout the year, students in VPK-12th grades have garnered points by attending church, being in Sunday School, serving as acolytes, singing in the choir, ushering, carrying oblations, reading the lessons or prayers in Children's Chapel, or just getting caught doing something great on Sunday mornings! **The first Redeemer Cup** was awarded on Sunday, November 19, during the 9 a.m. mass to the **Even Classes**. Congratulations! Now the slate is cleared, and we begin the competition again for the second trimester award in March 2024!

## ST. SCHOLASTICA GRANTS

One of Redeemer's newest outreach projects is the St. Scholastica Grants program for full-time teachers in Kindergarten through 12th grade classrooms in Sarasota and Manatee county public schools. Support for this important outreach project, which provides grants to teachers for essential classroom enhancements, comes from Redeemer's Mission & Outreach Committee, the Rector's Discretionary Fund, the sale of Christmas cards, and generous donors.

This year, we received applications from nearly 400 teachers, and through the support of the parish and our community, we will be able to award a record 80 St. Scholastica Grants!

The grants will be presented to teachers in their classrooms in mid-January, and our recipients will be honored at Redeemer on Sunday, February 4, during the 9 a.m. mass.

## St. Scholastica Recipients!



### *Glimpses of Just Do It 2022*

Charley Shugg: Pilot

Jeff Trefry: Chef

Charlotte Smith: Potter

Christine Hales: Iconographer

Kyle McCreight: American Ninja Warrior



## JUST DO IT!

It's time for our winter offering for elementary schoolers, **Just Do It**, which begins on Wednesday, January 10, at 6:30-7:30 p.m. Each week, a parishioner will teach about his or her area of expertise, and the children will try their hand at doing it!

The 2024 lineup includes Chef Jeff Trefry and the Thrill of the Kitchen; Construction Wizard Brenda Sylvester and Building Miniatures; Painting Portraits with Rich Hill; Mastering Puppetry with Marcia and Monica Miller; and Inventing the Unknown with Henry Paul.

Registration is full, but you can add your child's name to a wait list at [RedeemerSarasota.org/Register](https://RedeemerSarasota.org/Register).



## BABY SHOWER FOR FOSTER FAMILIES



Redeemer will host a **Baby Shower for Foster Families** on Sunday, January 14, between the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. masses. More opioid-addicted babies are being born in our area than ever before, leading to more babies being placed in foster care, so we're preparing 20 bags of essentials for families taking care of babies.

We need donations of the following items: diapers (preemie to size 4), thermometers, nasal bulb syringes, outlet covers, cabinet locks, pacifiers, bottles, diaper cream, Velcro sleep/swaddle sacks, baby shampoo, and washcloths.

You can purchase these items from area stores or use the QR code to the left to order items from the Amazon Wish List for the event.

Please bring your donations to Gillespie Hall or to the Parish Office by **Wednesday, January 10**. You'll find a basket in Gillespie Hall for your donations. In the Parish Office, you can hand your donations to a receptionist. Amazon will deliver items ordered through the Wish List directly to the church.

Thank you for your help with this important effort!

## CHRISTMAS LESSONS & CAROLS

Already missing the carols of Christmas?

Redeemer's 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. masses on Sunday, January 31, which is the sixth day of Christmas, will feature all of the hymns and carols you love so much! Join us for these **Christmas Lessons & Carols** services and travel through the music of the Twelve Days of Christmas!



- Sunday School takes place every Sunday of the academic year for VPK-12th grades. It begins immediately after students and teachers receive communion at the 9 a.m. mass. Classes end at 10:40 a.m.
- The Children & Families Lending Library is in the reception area of the second floor of the Robinson Center.
- Our Nurseries are for children under 4. They are open during the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. masses on the second floor of the Robinson Center. **Volunteer Greeters** welcome families before the 9 a.m. mass.
- A **Mother's Lounge**, for convenience and privacy when nursing babies, is directly across from the nursery suite.
- **Children's Chapel** takes place during the 9 a.m. mass throughout the year.
- During the 1 p.m. mass in Spanish, students and teachers leave for **Sunday School** before the Gospel is read and return at The Peace.

# JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

**Sunday, December 31: Christmas Lessons & Carols, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. masses**

**Saturday, January 6: The Feast of the Epiphany, 6 p.m.**

**Sunday, January 7: The Feast of the Epiphany, celebrated at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1 p.m. masses (1 p.m.) in Spanish. Children's Chapel during the 9 a.m. mass.**

**Wednesday, January 10: Just Do It! 2024 begins, K-5th grades, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Gillespie Hall. Add your child's name to the wait list at [RedeemerSarasota.org/Register](https://RedeemerSarasota.org/Register).**

**Sunday, January 14:**

- **Sunday School resumes to prep cars for "Race Back to Sunday School."**
- **All-Parish Baby Shower for Foster Families, following the 9 a.m. mass, Gillespie Hall**
- **Children's Chapel during the 9 a.m. mass**

**Sunday, January 21: Race Back to Sunday School, following the 9 a.m. mass, courtyard (rain plan: Gillespie Hall.) Children's Chapel during the 9 a.m. mass.**

**Sunday, January 28: Bagels & Bacon in Bathrobes/Candy Bingo, following the 8:45 a.m. mass. Note: This mass starts earlier because of the Annual Parish Meeting & Celebration. Students K-12 are invited to Bagels & Bacon and to wear their pajamas to church that morning!**

**Children's Chapel, most Sundays, during the 9 a.m. mass**

**Nurseries** are open on the second floor of the Robinson Center during the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. masses on Sundays for children under 4. The nurseries open on Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. and are open through the 11 a.m. mass. The Nurseries are also open on Holy Days throughout the year.

**Sunday School** is offered weekly for VPK (children who are 4 years old by September 1, 2023) through 12th grades. Students go to class immediately after receiving communion at the 9 a.m. mass. VPK-8th grades meet on the second floor of the Robinson Center. High School meets in the Babcock Youth Center. Classes are offered during the 1 p.m. mass in Spanish. **Classes will not be held on Sundays, December 24, 31, or January 7.**

**Redeemer Choir School** for grades K-12 meets on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4-6 p.m. To register, email Redeemer Organist-Choirmaster Sam Nelson at [SamNelson@RedeemerSarasota.org](mailto:SamNelson@RedeemerSarasota.org).

**The acolyte program** is open to children and youth in 1st grade and up. Acolytes serve at all masses and special services. To register, contact parishioner Beth Cave at [BethCave@Comcast.net](mailto:BethCave@Comcast.net).



For more information about Children and Families at Redeemer, contact Director of Children's Christian Formation Jacki Boedecker at [JBoedecker@RedeemerSarasota.org](mailto:JBoedecker@RedeemerSarasota.org). Church of the Redeemer - 222 S. Palm Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236 - 941-955-4263 - [RedeemerSarasota.org](https://RedeemerSarasota.org)

